



Administrative Office, 105 Hall Street, Suite A, Traverse City, MI 49684

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

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August 21, 2025

1:00 p.m.

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**Board Members Present:** Vince Cornellier, Christal Frost Anderson, Ruth Pilon, Mark Nyman, Dean Smallegan, Ben Townsend, Penny Morris, Ty Wessell, Dave Freedman, Tony Lentych, Mary Marois, Al Cambridge, Greg McMorrow

**Absent:** Kim Morley, Lynn Pope, Shawn Kraves

**Others Present:** Kim Silbor, Kevin Hartley, Dan Mauk, Jeremiah Williams, Kendall Sidnam, Alyssa Withun, Lisa Woodcox, Erica Longstreet, April Weinrick, Marsha Brown, Alexandra Coon

**Virtual Attendees:** 4 unknown, Abby Schonfeld, Aimee Horton Johnson, Amanda Ritchie, Ann Ketchum, Becky Brown, Caleb Gomez, Candace Kauska-Dietrich, Christina Hasty, Cindy Evans, Danielle Oswald, Deb Freed, Donna St. Germain, Erica Smith, Erin Barbus, Erin Brotherton, Gina Schlegel, Heather Sleight, Heidi Niederer, Janet Graham, Jennifer Edwards, Jennifer Wisniewski, Jessica Williams, Jordan Langley, Kaitlin Merritt, Karen Cass, Kari Barker, Kayla Sklener, Kellee Hoag, Kristie Maier, Lisa Holmes, Lisa Jones, Lori Stendel, Lynda Zeller, Lynn Pope, Mark Draeger, Melanie Schopieray, Melissa Bentgen, Melissa Michael, Neil Rojas, Nicole Hutchinson, Rudy Wright, Somer Quinlan, Sophorn Klingelsmith, Stacy Maiville, Sue Hamel, Tammy Heitkamp, Teri Dougherty, Terri Henderson, Tiffany Fewins, Victoria McDonald

**Call to Order:** 1:00 p.m.

**Conflict of Interest:** None.

**Timekeeper:** M. Marois

**Approval of Agenda:** Yes

The Board agreed to Mr. Lentych's request to strike "extension" from the previous minutes and replace it with "abstention" as it refers to the act of choosing not to vote based on being absent for the June Board meeting.

The Board approved the agenda.

**Public Comment:** None

**Report of Officers:**

**Recipient Rights Report:** Brian Newcomb, Director of the Office of Recipient Rights, gave an overview of his report to the Board. The office has completed all investigations on time; there are no open investigations. The office remains at 100% compliance. Next week the office will have its tri annual assessment performed. In three weeks, Mr. Newcomb and members of his team will attend a Recipient Rights conference that is four days long.

**Interim Chief Executive Officer's Report:** Dr. Curtis Cummins, Chief Medical Director & Interim CEO, presented his report to the Board. The CEO report included responses to citizen comments, dashboard report, dates of note, recent email blasts and media coverage. The full report is included in the board packet. Phase 1a of cost containment (layoffs) is complete. Phase 1b of cost containment (restructuring) is complete. The next phase of the cost containment plan will include contracts for the next FY as well as ongoing utilization management.

The Board praised the responses to citizen comments and posed the question of if the citizens are contacted after their comment with the response, this will be looked at.

The Board requests that the topic of Northern Lakes recognition be brought to the attention of Munson in relation to public releases and more, concerning the new Crisis/Access center (GTMHCAC).

**Chief Financial Officer's Report:** Kevin Hartley, the Chief Financial Officer of Northern Lakes, presented the financial report. The report contained a summary of variances and fluctuations, statement of net position, statement of revenue compared to budget, and contract provider activity. Mr. Hartley reviewed the different categories of the budget and identified which areas were over and under budget. The full report with specific numbers is in the Board packet.

**MOTION: Accept contract changes for the month**

**RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER: A. Cambridge**

**SECONDER: T. Lentych**

**Services for Adults with Mental Illness and Substance Use disorders:**

**MIA Outpatient Services:** Alyssa Withun, MIA Outpatient Supervisor, gave an overview of the Adult Outpatient Therapy program. The population that they serve is Adults 18+ with severe and persistent mental illness. Assessments, treatment plans, crisis services and individual therapy are provided. Service are offered in person and through telehealth.

**ACT Services:** Kendall Sidnam, Behavioral Health Home & Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Operations Manager, gave an overview of the program. ACT is a unique wraparound service that is able to provide practically all services needed for each consumer within the same team. The caseload is shared between every member of the team, each member interacts with each consumer. There is a designated psychiatrist in each county, a privilege surrounding CMH's may not have.

**Grand Traverse Mental Health Crisis and Access Center:** Michael Corby, GTMHCAC Behavioral Health Director, gave an update on the center. The hours have expanded to 24/7. There is an upward trend and steady increase in clients. Clients from a considerable number of different counties have been served. There are a wide range of issues that the center helps with from less severe to very severe.

**PCP and Self Determination Training:** Lisa Woodcox, Adult IDD Team Lead, gave an overview of self determination which is now called self-direction. The families and guardians are given a choice of who they would like to hire based around five principles. There are many resources available, and they are assisted in making sure that they stay within the yearly Medicaid budget. One of the services available is community living support which prepares the consumer for different levels of independence. A recent survey was conducted where 24 of the 25 who receive services from this program were satisfied or very satisfied.

**Committee Reports:**

**NMRE:** Ms. Pilon spoke about the upcoming PIHP bid out. Those who are currently PHIP are not allowed to put a bid in. Once this moves forward the bid-winning PIHP will be handling all contracts and there will not be capitation but a fee for service model. This change is coming from the MDHHS. Ms. Pilon encouraged the public to reflect on how this will affect consumers and the community as well as to try to have their voices heard.

**Ad Hoc CEO Search:** Mr. Townsend thanked Tom Bratton for the last two years of work he completed for the committee. The process of reviewing submission packets, letters and evaluations were mentioned. On August 14<sup>th</sup> there was an open meeting, during which the final two candidates were chosen to be recommended to the Board. The Board will put it to a vote at the next Board meeting following a 10:00am special meeting the same day.

**Executive:** Mr. McMorrow addressed the creation of future agendas, nothing else to report.

**Finance:** Mr. Cambridge shared that the single audit for 2024 is complete, and the committee is awaiting the arrival of the report. The recent reorganization led to \$797,000 in savings for the Agency, this has been implemented now and will be a part of next year's budget.

**MOTION:** Approve the contract as presented in the engagement letter from Rehman for support on financial templates as presented

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** D. Smallegan

**SECONDER:** T. Lentych

**MOTION:** We challenge the Rehman assessment rejecting the findings of the 2018 and 2019 results due to their incorrect assumptions, we move to request a proposal from our current auditor RPC to review the Rehman assessment

**RESULT:** Roll Call Vote, ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** D. Smallegan

**SECONDER:** M. Marois

**MOTION:** By deleting the 2018 and 2019 results of the Rehman assessment, we request settlement from the NMRE from the years 2023 and 2024, including the assumptions about years 2020, 2021 and 2022 for a net request in the amount of \$3,040,311 while we employ RPC to review the Rehman assessment.

**RESULT:** Roll Call Vote, ADOPTED [1 DISSENT, R. Pilon]

**MOVER:** D. Smallegan

**SECONDER:** T. Lentych

**MOTION:** We recognize and applaud our leadership team for their efforts in dealing with our current challenges, our current and future financial challenges and for the presentation of a draft balanced budget for 2026.

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** D. Smallegan

**SECONDER:** B. Townsend

**Policy:** Mr. Freedman commended the staff for their hard work with CARF, word had been given to the committee that it had gone well.

**Personnel:** Ms. Pilon shared that the committee will be meeting next week on 8/29 to discuss the results of the surveys that have been put out and start working on the policies.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**Public Comment:**

**Marsha Brown, home supervisor of a board operated home,** shared a story of a consumer that the home helped find the proper treatment for. The previous treatment had negative effects and due to the homes' efforts, this consumer is now enjoying life more.

**Karin Killian, a journalist,** spoke about her grievances related to domestic violence, trafficking and her previous experiences with CMH.

**Announcements/ Board Member Reports/ Board Association:**

Mr. Cambridge shared that a local county commissioner spoke with the finance committee and encouraged them to be more aggressive when it comes to finances and the NMRE.

Ms. Morris shared that the dispute resolution committee is waiting until after this Board meeting before they move forward on their action items.

**Next Meeting:** September 18, 2025 – Houghton Lake

**Adjournment:** 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Coon, Covering for Executive Administrator

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Greg McMorrow, Board Chairperson

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Lynn Pope, Secretary

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